Preparatory Committee for the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Updated draft recommendations for the report of the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Submitted by the European Union

Chapeau

Reaffirmation of commitment to the preamble and articles of the Treaty.

Reaffirmation of commitment to efforts designed to promote the full realisation and effective implementation of the provisions of the Treaty, as well as reaffirmation of the decisions on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament and on strengthening the review process for the Treaty as well as the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

(i) Universality

Urgency and importance of achieving the universality of the Treaty; welcome for the eight new accessions to the Treaty since 1995, bringing the number of States Parties to 186; urgency for all States not yet party to the Treaty to accede to the Treaty at the earliest possible date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities.

Welcome for Brazil's declared intention to accede to the Treaty

(ii) Main Committee I issues

Non-Proliferation

Re-affirmation that every effort should be made to implement the Treaty in all its aspects to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices, without hampering the peaceful uses of nuclear energy by States parties to the Treaty.

Nuclear Disarmament

The importance of all States to make every effort to promote the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, in accordance with Article XIV of that Treaty.

Importance of signature and ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty by all States, in particular those States upon whose adherence entry into force of the Treaty depends.

The importance of all States to support efforts to establish the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty's verification regime in a timely and effective manner.

Reaffirmation of the need for immediate commencement and early conclusion of negotiations on a non-discriminatory and universally applicable convention banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, in accordance with the statement of the Special Coordinator of the Conference on Disarmament and the mandate contained therein.

Recognition of the progress in nuclear weapons reduction by the nuclear -weapon States, including those made unilaterally or bilaterally under the START process, as steps towards nuclear disarmament; reaffirmation of the commitment by the nuclear weapon States to the determined pursuit of systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons and of the commitment by all States to the achievement of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.

Urgency and importance of ratification of START II, and of immediate opening of negotiations on a START III treaty. Recognition of the value of increased openness through the information provided by the nuclear weapon states in the course of the NPT review process on steps they have taken or are taking in nuclear disarmament.

Welcome for efforts by the group of seven major industrialised countries and the Russian Federation to address the issue of management of plutonium from dismantled nuclear weapons.

Universal adherence to existing Conventions and regimes of non-proliferation would greatly enhance international peace and security and contribute to further progress in the field of disarmament.

Urgency and importance of achieving the universality of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction. Urgency for all States not yet party to the Convention to accede at the earliest possible date.

Urgency and importance of the Ad Hoc Group of the States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological

(Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction to complete negotiations on a legally binding verification and compliance regime for the Treaty by the end of 1998, and of achieving the universality of the Convention through accession to the Convention by all States not yet party at the earliest possible date.

Importance that all regions make major reductions in their levels of conventional arms, as has been done in Europe on the basis of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe.

Nuclear-Weapon-Free zones

Welcome for the steps taken to conclude further nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties since 1995 and reaffirmation of the conviction that the establishment of internationally recognised nuclear-weapon-free zones freely arrived at among the States concerned enhances global and regional peace and security.

Recognition of the importance attached by signatories and States parties to the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Pelindaba and Bangkok to establishing a mechanism for cooperation among their respective Treaty agencies.

Importance of establishment of zone free from all weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East involving all States in the region. Importance that all States in Middle East which have not yet done so should accede to the NPT and the Chemical and Biological Weapons Conventions.

Security Assurances

Reaffirmation of the view that further steps, which could take the form of an international legally binding instrument, should be considered to assure non-nuclear-weapon States party to the Treaty against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

Recognition that treaty-based security assurances are available to parties to nuclear-weapon-free zones through the signature of the relevant protocols to such zones by the Nuclear Weapon States. Importance of concerned States that have not yet signed and ratified these treaties doing so as soon as possible, thus bringing into effect those security assurances.

Importance of the recent decision by the Conference on Disarmament to establish an Ad Hoc Committee to consider effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon states against the threat or use of nuclear weapons.

(iii) Main Committee II issues

Safeguards

Reaffirmation that all States parties required by Article III of the Treaty to sign and bring into force comprehensive safeguards agreements and which have not yet done so should do so without delay.

Welcome for the adoption by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of a Model Protocol containing measures which, when implemented, will strengthen the effectiveness and improve the efficiency of the Agency's safeguards system.

Importance of early conclusions of Additional Protocols to relevant safeguards agreements as soon as possible, including by States with voluntary offer safeguards agreements and with INFCIRC 66-type safeguards agreements.

Importance of cost-effective and efficient implementation of integrated safeguards system by IAEA as a matter of highest priority.

Importance for all States to comply fully with their safeguards agreements, and with relevant obligations under UN Security Council resolutions.

Reaffirmation that IAEA is the competent authority responsible for verifying and assuring, in accordance with the statute of the Agency and the Agency's safeguards system, compliance with its safeguards agreements.

Welcome for the commitment by Nuclear Weapon States that fissile material transferred from military use to peaceful nuclear activities should, as soon as practicable, be placed under IAEA safeguards in the framework of the voluntary safeguards agreements in place with the Nuclear Weapon States.

Importance that each State Party with nuclear materials on its territory maintain and improve its own arrangements for nuclear materials accountancy, safety and physical protection, applying the appropriate internationally agreed standards.

Welcome for decision by a number of States to adopt a set of Guidelines for the Management of Plutonium in all peaceful nuclear activities as published in INFCIRC 549.

Welcome steps taken by G8 to increase cooperation on and implementation of Programme for Preventing and Combating Illicit Trafficking in Nuclear Material. Importance of expanded participation in the Programme.

(iv) Main Committee III issues

Peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Reaffirmation of commitment to continue to take further steps for the full realisation of the relevant provisions of the Treaty, taking into account the undertakings in the principles and objectives on the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Reaffirmation that attacks or threats of attacks on nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful purposes jeopardise nuclear safety and raise serious concerns regarding the application of international law on the use of force in such cases, which could warrant appropriate action in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

Importance of ensuring the exercise of the inalienable right of all parties to the Treaty to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, without discrimination and in conformity with Article I, II and III of the Treaty.

Importance that exporting States take measures to ensure that exports of sensitive materials, equipments and technologies are subject to an appropriate system of surveillance and control, facilitating cooperative technological development by providing confidence of suppliers that goods, technology and materials will only be used for peaceful purposes.

Reaffirmation that new supply arrangements should require, as a necessary precondition, acceptance of the IAEA's full scope safeguards and international legally binding commitments not to acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

Importance of all parties that have not yet done so to adhere to the Nuclear Suppliers Group Guidelines.

Importance of transparency in export control regimes. Welcome for transparency activities of the Nuclear Suppliers Group.

Importance that States that have not yet done so sign and ratify the 1994 Convention on Nuclear Safety at the earliest possible date.

Importance of continuing commitment worldwide to improvements in nuclear safety, including in the fields of radiation protection and waste management. Welcome for conclusion of Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management. Call on all States to sign and ratify as soon as possible.

Importance that IAEA continues to have financial and human resources necessary to carry out its responsibilities in the areas of technical cooperation, safeguards and nuclear safety. Importance of improved delivery of technical cooperation by IAEA.